Commerce Ministers' meet at Davos

2431. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:
SHRI MAHENDRA SAHNI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the agenda of the recent meeting of Commerce Ministers' at Davos;

(b) the details of the conclusions of the meeting;

(c) whether a decision was taken regarding resumption of Doha Round;

(d) if so, on what conditions;

(e) whether India, alongwith other partner developing countries, is expected to relax its stand on agriculture; and

(f) if so, the details thereof, alongwith the reasons for such relaxations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (d) An informal Ministerial meeting on the Doha Work Programme of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) was attended by about 30 Trade Ministers on 27 January 2007 on the margins of the World Economic Forum at Davos. The Ministers endorsed full scale resumption of negotiations. The Ministers favoured an inclusive multilateral process, coupled with a comprehensive approach in the negotiations, to achieve a broad-based and balanced deal in keeping with the development dimension of the Doha Round.

The Director-General, WTO, in his capacity as Chairman of the Trade Negotiations Committee (TNC), has reported full resumption of the negotiations under the Doha Work Programme at the meeting of the General Council of the WTO, held on 7 February, 2007.

(e) and (f) No, Sir. There has been no decision by India and its developing country partners to relax their stand on agriculture issues.